

the longitudinal axis of the balloon varies throughout the balloon material in a direction transverse to said longitudinal axis.

31. (Amended) An inflatable medical balloon having a circumference and a longitudinal axis comprising:

a matrix material, said matrix material characterized as being semi-compliant; and having a plurality of individual fiber cores mixed therethrough, said cores being evenly distributed about the circumference of the balloon and being composed of one or more materials which are characterized as being stronger than the matrix material and having a bulk elongation less than the matrix material when the one or more materials are oriented in the direction of the longitudinal axis, and the matrix material and the core material operatively adhering to one another.

35. (Amended) The medical balloon of claim 31, wherein the fibril component is between about 10 microns and about 12 microns in diameter.

In the Specification

Please amend the specification at page 1, lines 4-5 as follows.

This application is a continuation-in-part of copending US Patent Application Serial No. 09/426384, now abandoned.

Remarks

Restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121

Restriction has been made to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. §121:

- I. Claims 1-26, 31-36, drawn to an article; and
- II. Claims 27-30, drawn to a method.